



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

February 29, 2016

BARBARA KLEAR, TREASURER
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA
919 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 2050
RICHMOND, VA 23219

Response Due Date

04/04/2016

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00155952

REFERENCE: FEBRUARY MONTHLY REPORT (01/01/2016 - 01/31/2016)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 3 item(s):

1. Schedule A (see attached) discloses a contribution(s) from an individual(s) who has a mailing address outside of the United States of America. Please be advised that 52 U.S.C. §30121(a) (formerly 2 U.S.C. §441e(a)) and 11 CFR §110.20 prohibit foreign nationals from making contributions in connection with any election for political office or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for any political office.

If the apparently prohibited contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If your committee follows the safe harbor guidelines outlined under 11 CFR §110.20(a)(7) for all contributions received from a foreign address to ensure that the sources of these contributions are not foreign nationals, please provide a detailed description of your procedures. These procedures must be used in all cases where a contributor or donor uses a foreign passport or passport number for identification purposes, provides a foreign address, makes a contribution or donation by means of a check or other written instrument drawn on a foreign bank or by wire transfer from a foreign bank, or resides abroad. A committee is deemed to have conducted a reasonable inquiry into the contributor or donor's nationality if you seek and obtain copies of current and valid U.S. passport papers for U.S. citizens. No person may rely on this safe harbor if he or she has

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA

Page 2 of 3

actual knowledge that the source of the funds solicited, accepted, or received is a foreign national.

If you have received a contribution from a foreign national, you must refund the impermissible contribution to the donor in accordance with 11 CFR §103.3(b). Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the refund. In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 28 (a) of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of a prohibited contribution(s), prompt action on your part to refund or provide clarifying information concerning these contributions will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule A supporting Line 15 of your report discloses an offset to an operating expenditure(s) totaling \$7,501.00 from "LUANN BENNETT FOR CONGRESS;" however, your report(s) does not appear to disclose a disbursement to this entity. Please provide clarifying information regarding this activity and amend your report(s) if necessary. (11 CFR § 104.3(a) & (b))

3. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses payments for "Payroll Taxes" and "Salary." Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal Election Activity (FEA) or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Further, the Commission concluded in Advisory Opinion 2003-11 that amounts spent for employee-specific "fringe benefits," consisting of health insurance, disability insurance, life insurance, retirement benefits and payroll taxes, fall into the category of compensated time.

Please clarify whether this activity is for employees who spent 25% or less of their time during the month(s) referenced above on FEA or activities in connection with a Federal election. If this is not the case, any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for this payment is not permissible and must be returned. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding any improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF VIRGINIA

Page 3 of 3

matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1177.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Jones', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Jones
Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

Prohibited Contributions
Democratic Party of Virginia (C00155952)

Contributions from Possible Foreign Nationals

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
Maria Kellner	1/5/16	\$2,081.25	2016 February Monthly
Peter Kellner	1/6/16	\$3,125.00	2016 February Monthly